Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

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Growing population and ecosystem change increase human schistosomiasis around Lake Malawi

Author(s):   Van Bocxlaer B, Albrecht C, Stauffer JR Jr
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Abstract:

Multiple anthropogenic environmental stressors with reinforcing effects to the deterioration of ecosystem stability can obscure links between ecosystem change and the prevalence of infectious diseases. Incomplete understanding may lead to ineffective public health and disease control strategies, as appears to be the case with increased urogenital schistosomiasis in humans around Lake Malawi over recent decades. Sedimentation and eutrophication help explain historical changes in intermediate host range and parasite transmission. Hence, control strategies should account for abiotic changes.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pt.2014.02.006

Resource Description

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

  Ecosystem Changes

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

  Freshwater

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

 Non-United States

  Non-United States: Africa

    African Region/Country: African Region

    Other African Region: Lake Malawi

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

  Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: Schistosomiasis

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

 Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

 Children

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

 Research Article

Timescale: ☒

time period studied

 Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: ☒

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

 A focus of content